EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Response to Arguments/Amendments

1.   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Anne Vachon Dougherty (Reg. No. 30374) on 3/27/08 and 3/28/08.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2.   Specification is amended according to the amendment sent by Applicant on 2/1/08 and is accepted.

3.   **Claims 1, 3-12** are **canceled**.

4.   Claim 2 is amended as follows:

--2. A method for processing data packets of a data stream in a communication system, the method comprising:

      depending on a predetermined feature of a data packet, said data packet being one of a plurality of data packets received in an original packet order, processing the data packet as one of a slow data packet on a slower path or a fast data packet on a faster path, wherein the data packet is processed faster in the faster path than in the slower path; and

      reordering the data packets after the processing into the original packet order;

      wherein the reordering comprises the steps of: for each fast processed fast data packet processed on the faster path, determining whether one or more slow data packet

> **Deleted:** A method as recited in claim 1, comprising:

precede the fast data packet in the original packet order; determining whether said one

or more slow data packets have been processed; and, if one or more slow data packets

that preceded said fast data packet in said original packet order has not been

processed, storing one or more fast processed fast data packets that were processed

on the faster path in a memory until said one or more slow data packets have been

processed and received at an output; and,

fetching the stored one or more fast processed fast data packets from the

memory for outputting to the output when all the slow data packets that preceded the

one or more fast data packets in the original packet order have been received at the

output;

producing a sync signal if a last slow data packet is followed by a fast data

packet;

giving the sync signal to the slower processing path after the last slow data

packet;

generating a ready signal when the sync signal is processed in the slower path;

and,

in response to the ready signal, taking the stored fast processed data packets out

of the memory and delivering further fast processed data packets to the output directly

after the stored fast data packets have been drained out of the memory.--

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jianye Wu whose telephone number is (571)270-1665. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday, 8am to 7pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on (571)272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jianye Wu/

Examiner, Art Unit 2616

/Seema S. Rao/

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